

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
PROGRAMS, GRANTS & SERVICES COMMITTEE**

November 19, 2015

Arts Commission Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505

Allan Rent, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Karen Ellerbrook, Pam Hicks, Micah Smith, Allen Platt

Members via teleconference: Allan Rent, Nancy Stewart, Jennifer Perry

Members absent: Linda Levell

Arts Commission staff present: Sarah Fronczek, Rebecca Hopson, Miah Michaelsen, Ann Fields Monical, Stephanie Pfendler, Lewis Ricci, Paige Sharp, Adrian Starnes

1. Welcome and Introductions. Chair Al Rent called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. and asked for everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Consent agenda. Commissioner Karen Ellerbrook moved to approve the agenda for today's meeting and the meeting minutes for September 3, 2015. Allen Platt seconded the motion. Roll call as follows:

Karen Ellerbrook	Yes
Allen Platt	Yes
Allen Rent	Yes
Micah Smith	Yes
Nancy Stewart	Yes

The motion passed.

3. Capacity Building Program Update. Arts Commission Communications and Community Engagement Manager Ann Fields reported on results received from grantee and panelist surveys to determine greatest challenges in capacity building, which will then be used to determine activities to be funded. Removing the financial shoal relative to capacity building activities, 4 main challenges emerged: evaluating communication efforts, enhancing the visibility of the organizations cultural activities, evaluating the organizations impact/outcomes and communicating with underserved audiences. Of the RFPs submitted that address these issues Art Mix, the IU Center on Community and Aging, and the IU Lily School submissions were the strongest. Ann continued that work is being done to strengthen these proposals and shape them into curriculums that will be viable to our constituents. Although outside the RFP, Arts United proposed to conduct a state wide economic impact study and the Commission has contracted with them to complete this, the hope being to use the information to advocate for future programs. The study they completed for the Fort Wayne area has been attached. Mr. Ricci added that we hope to complete the access oriented proposals in this fiscal year. The creative place making and board/fund development ideas are hoped to be contracted in this fiscal year. Ann will be sending summaries of the grantee and panelist surveys to all commissioners.

4. Regional Initiatives Grants Update. Paige Sharp, Arts Commission Director of Programs, informed all present that the regional initiative grant cycle is opening shortly with the application deadlines set for March 1st and 3rd of 2016 for AOS I and Arts project support only. She further addressed the notice of intent to apply for the determination of eligibility, now that the term “arts organizations” is clearly defined. Intentions will only be received by those who are not already an AOS grantee, since they have already been vetted. Once received, these will need to be confirmed by committee review.

5. PACE Program Update. Sarah Fronczek, Community Development Manager and Arts education coordinator, reported on the progress of the 4 original PACE pilot programs, elaborating on the assessment tools and site visits they are using to determine each program’s success. If reports are positive, the four original pilot schools will have an opportunity to extend their programs into the next grade level thus elongating the time students are involved and impacted. Additional funding would be distributed amongst the 4 schools, resulting in \$2500 added onto what they will receive next year. This funding source is a percentage of the 1% reserve released to the Commission for Bicentennial projects. The Committee on the Future approved to recommend the allocation of funds from the reserve. Since the appropriate investment can be applied, this committee decided to take action on the implementation of the extension of the program itself to include the following grade level, which will see current students experiencing a second year in the program. Allen Platt moved to accept this recommendation. Nancy Stewart seconded the motion. Roll call as follows:

Karen Ellerbrook	Yes
Pam Hicks	Yes
Jennifer Perry	Yes
Allen Platt	Yes
Allen Rent	Yes
Micah Smith	Yes
Nancy Stewart	Yes

The motion passed.

In addition, Sarah added PACE was originally budgeted to include 2 new programs. The Fort Wayne Dance collective in collaboration with South Wayne Elementary School is in the process of submitting a proposal and if accepted into the program by the commission, funds will remain to take on one more partner this fiscal year.

6. Bicentennial Update.

- A. **Indiana Masterpiece.** Lewis Ricci presented the Indiana Masterpiece funding recommendations (attached) and reported, since vetting the program applications, the commission needs to decide what level of funding is to be allocated and to how many applicants, since more applicants qualify than can be funded. Asking amounts could not exceed \$20,000 and funding percentages are determined by scores received during the paneling process. 2 scenarios are offered for discussion and approval. Scenario 1 will fund 23 organizations at approximately 75% of their asking amount. Scenario 2 proposes funding 36 organizations at approximately 55% of their request amounts. Discussion followed on vetting practices, scoring processes and how lines of demarcation between the two scenarios and those applicants who will receive no funding were established. Aberrant scoring and normalization processes were also discussed relative to Z scores. Commissioner Karen Ellerbrook expressed her opinion that the goal of the Commission is to provide for every citizen in our State, concluding that the fair option is to extend to the larger group. Al Rent agreed that by extending we are allowing more constituents additional programming. Micah Smith agreed but added that the Arts Commission is also about strengthening organizations

and those organizations that consistently fall on the cusp are given the illusion that they do not need to develop beyond their current capacity. She continued that while we should fund as many as possible, we need to start thinking about the future and if inclusion is necessarily beneficial in the long term. For those organizations that will go unfunded despite either scenario, Allen Platt inquired about Young Audiences, being the only unfunded organization with a positive z score. Discussion on editing the 2nd scenario to include Young Audiences was opened. A motion was made by Allen Platt to amend the second scenario to include Young Audiences for funding. The motion was seconded by Micah Smith. Roll as follows:

Karen Ellerbrook	Yes
Pam Hicks	Yes
Jennifer Perry	Yes
Allen Platt	Yes
Allen Rent	Yes
Micah Smith	Yes
Nancy Stewart	Yes

The motion passed to include Young Audiences as a funded grantee.

Al Rent then asked for a motion to approve the now amended scenario 2 in which Young Audiences has been included. Allen Platt moved to vote. Micah Smith seconded the motion. Roll as follows:

Karen Ellerbrook	Yes
Pam Hicks	Yes
Jennifer Perry	Yes
Allen Platt	Yes
Allen Rent	Yes
Micah Smith	Yes
Nancy Stewart	Yes

The motion passed.

- B. **Arts in the Park.** Rebecca Hopson, Arts Commission Community Development Manager, reported that the Arts in the Parks program proposals have been vetted with 29 organizations and 47 individual artists recommended for funding. She presented a handout specifying those projects to be funded, their request amount and scores (attached). The projects will bring 104 total services with only 8 of the 36 DNR properties untouched. Because funding was originally allocated for 200 plus projects, the remaining money has been allocated for training artists and naturalists, marketing the program and providing ASCAP licensure before the remainder is cascaded down into the Indiana Masterpiece program. Karen Ellerbrook expressed that we have always had problems reaching rural communities and feels this is a “great way to include more people in the outlying areas.” Ms. Hopson added that hopefully we will begin conversations to integrate historic sites into the program. Nancy Stewart motioned to approve the funding recommendations for our arts in the parks program as presented. Pam Hicks seconded the motion. Roll call as follows:

Karen Ellerbrook	Yes
Pam Hicks	Yes
Jennifer Perry	Yes
Allen Platt	Yes

Allen Rent	Yes
Micah Smith	Yes
Nancy Stewart	Yes

The motion passed.

7. **Old Business.** No Old Business

8. New Business. Sarah Fronczek reported that the IAP grants opened on November 1st with 14 applications already in progress. A December 1st webinar is scheduled with an encouraging amount enrolled. She continued that Shari Wagner was selected by a committee of 7 representatives from higher education institutions as the new Indiana poet laureate. Shari has worked with the Indiana Writer's Center, aging community, incarcerated and many state parks. Having worked with so many community based associations, she is an excellent choice to engage with our citizenry. Sarah also apprised the committee that the NEA's Poetry Outloud program has implemented an original poetry competition to celebrate the organizations 50th anniversary, called Poetry Ourselves. In conjunction with the National program Sarah has implemented a similar State level competition called Poetry from Within in which school champions can submit their own poetry or the poetry of another student. In answer to Al Rent's question the recitation competition will be held at the Central Branch of the Indianapolis Public Library February 20th , 2016 with the hopes of having the original poems judged a week or two in advanced so that the finalists can be included in the event.

9. **Adjourn.** Chair of the Programs Grants and Services Committee, Al Rent, called to adjourn the meeting. Roll call as follows:

Karen Ellerbrook	Yes
Pam Hicks	Yes
Jennifer Perry	Yes
Allen Platt	Yes
Micah Smith	Yes
Nancy Stewart	Yes
Al Rent	Yes

The motion passed.